

Listing of Claims

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method for treating cardiac disease of a heart, the method comprising:

accessing a diseased heart;

placing a jacket comprising compliant, elastic, and open cell biocompatible material around the ventricles of the heart to passively constrain circumferential expansion of the heart;

causing an electrical element to extend through an open cell in the jacket and to operatively engage the accessed heart to couple electrical therapy to the heart; and

de-accessing the heart after placing the jacket and causing the electrical element to engage the heart.

19-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising securing the jacket on the heart.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the jacket is secured on the heart with sutures.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising adjusting said jacket to snugly conform to the external geometry of the heart.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said electrical element is a pacer lead.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 wherein said electrical therapy is a defibrillating therapy.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 wherein said electrical therapy is a pacing therapy.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein said jacket is configured to engage a surface of the heart to constrain circumferential expansion of the heart beyond a predetermined maximum volume.